

Customer No. 25280

Case No. 5389

Amendments to the Claims

Claims:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A tufted carpet having reduced shrinkage, said carpet comprising:

(a) at least one pile layer tufted through a base substrate and  
(b) at least one backing layer disposed at a position below the base substrate and spaced apart from the base substrate with at least one layer of adhesive disposed at a position intermediate the base substrate and said at least one backing layer.

(c) wherein said pile layer comprises fibers tufted into said backing layer, further wherein said at least one backing layer of said tufted carpet consists essentially of polypropylene tape fibers forming said backing layer at least one backing layer comprises a plurality of polypropylene fibers;

(d) further wherein said polypropylene tape fibers comprise from about 10 ppm to about 800 ppm of a nucleator compound and

(e) said polypropylene tape fibers exhibiting a tensile strength of at least about 3 grams/denier;

(f) further wherein said polypropylene tape fibers exhibit a shrinkage rate after exposure to 150°C hot air of less than about 2%.

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5. (Previously Presented) The carpet of Claim 4 wherein said nucleator compound is selected from the group consisting of p-MDBS, 3,4-DMDBS, 2,4,5-TMDBS, DBS, NA-11, NA-21, and any mixtures thereof.

6. (Original) The carpet of Claim 5 wherein said nucleating agent is p-MDBS.

7-14. (Canceled)

15. (New) The carpet of claim 4, wherein at least a portion of the polypropylene fibers are tape fibers.

16. (New) The carpet of claim 4, wherein said at least one backing layer consists essentially of a plurality of polypropylene tape fibers and wherein said polypropylene fibers comprise from about 10 ppm to about 800 ppm of a nucleator compound.